Appointment of Tahsildars and Division Assistants during the three years ending Kanni 1104.

151. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of persons recommended to the Government by the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner from among the non-caste Hindus and non-Hindus for appointment as Tahsildars and Division Assistants, the names of those who were so recommended and the names of those who were appointed from among them during the three years ending the 20th Karni 1104?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The information cannot be supplied as the recommendations of Departmental Heads to the Government for filling up vacancies in the service are confidential.

Appointment of relatives of Government Officers.

152. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state how many relatives of the officers now in service have been entertained in service during the last three years (1101-1103)?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government have no information. As regards the appointment in the public service by officers, of their own relatives, the attention of the member is invited to the Royal Proclamation dated the 10th Kanni 1050 prohibiting such appointments. The presumption is that the rule is not transgressed; but if any specific instance of violation of the rule is brought to notice, the Government will enquire into it.

The Talavadi Branch of the Manimala River.

153. **MR. K. PADMANABHA PANIKKAR** (*Ambalapuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that for a distance of three miles a branch of the Manimala river flowing through the Talavadi and Kozhimukku pakuthies in the Ambalapuzha taluk is being silted up; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the steps taken by them to prevent the silting up of this river?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A maintenance grant has been sanctioned from the beginning of 1103 for maintaining this portion of the river so as to prevent silt being formed. The removal of silt is being done every year.

Disposal of Timber from Government Depots.

154. **MR. K. PADMANABHA PANIKKAR** (*Ambalapuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement relating to the quality of timber now (23-1-1104) left over without being sold in the various timber depots of the State during the last three years?

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(*b*) Is it a fact that a good lot of timber is thrown off without finding purchasers ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Almost all the timber received up to Edavam 1103 has been disposed of and what remains now is fresh timber received since then.

(*b*) No; the timber always finds prompt purchasers and no stock is left undisposed of.

Kuttanad to be a separate Co-operative Division.

155. **MR. K. PADMANABHA PANIKKAR** (*Ambalapuzha*) : In order to encourage agriculture, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have considered it necessary to form Kuttanad into a separate Co-operative Division with a separate Co-operative Inspector in charge of the work ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Government do not consider it necessary to constitute Kuttanad into a separate Co-operative Circle.

Plague Observation.

156. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the places at which observation stations have been established to prevent the spread of plague from Cochin to Travancore ;

(*b*) whether an observation station has not been established at Arukutti to examine passengers entering Travancore from Cochin by boats and canoes ;

(*c*) the number of Medical Officers that have been specially deputed for observation work at the Arukutti station ;

(*d*) the average number of boats and canoes that cross over to Travancore daily from Cochin through Arukutti ;

(*e*) whether it is not the rule that all the passengers in these conveyances should be examined individually ;

(*f*) whether all such passengers are individually examined at the Arukutti observation station ;

(*g*) whether they consider it possible on the part of the Medical Officers now posted there to conduct a proper examination of all these passengers individually ;

(*h*) whether they are aware that a very large number of such passengers are put to various inconveniences on account of the insufficient number of Medical Officers deputed for the work ;

(*i*) whether, in view to the convenience of passengers and to secure additional advantage on account of medical examination, they will depute more Medical Officers to the Arukutti observation station ;

(*j*) whether they are aware :

(i) that passengers by boat from Cochin are compelled to alight at Arukutti for medical examination ; and

(ii) that this is a source of considerable inconvenience to such passengers, especially to women and children ;

(*k*) whether, in view to the safety and convenience of passengers by boat, they will issue instructions for the examination being conducted in the boats themselves ;

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